



General Assembly

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A/AC.241/L.41
16 September 1997

Original: ENGLISH

INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR
THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES
EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR
DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA
Resumed Tenth session
Geneva, 18-22 August 1997
Agenda item 2

PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman

Housing of the global mechanism

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee,

Recalling Article 21 of the Convention to Combat Desertification, in particular paragraphs 4 to 7;

Recalling also the invitation by the Chairman of the INCD to organizations which might be interested in hosting the Global Mechanism, to submit such an interest in writing;

Noting the statement made by the President of the World Bank at the 19th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly in June 1997 as well as the statement made by the representative of the World Bank at the resumed tenth session;

Noting further with appreciation the additional information provided by IFAD and UNDP with respect to their respective offers to house the Global Mechanism;

Recalling its decision 10/3, in particular paragraph 4, which requests the interim secretariat to present the submissions of IFAD and UNDP to the first Conference of the Parties (COP 1);

1. Requests the COP 1 to consider the offers of IFAD and UNDP, including any suggestions which they deem necessary, and to take appropriate action on the matters related to the selection of an institution which should house the Global Mechanism;
2. Requests the Secretariat, in consultation with IFAD and UNDP to develop proposals on administrative and operational modalities of the Global Mechanism for consideration and adoption by the COP at its first session;
3. Invites IFAD, UNDP and the World Bank to consult on and develop a proposal on the possible collaborative institutional arrangement for the Global Mechanism for submission to, consideration and appropriate action by the COP at its first session.



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PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

United Republic of Tanzania*: draft decision

Establishment of a "Committee on the Review of the Implementation
of the Convention" (CRIC)

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling article 22, paragraph 2 (c) of the Convention to Combat
Desertification (CCD) and article 27 of the CCD related to measures to resolve
questions on implementation,

Recalling also article 26 of the CCD related to communication of
information,

Reaffirming its own decision on the timetable for submission and
consideration of reports on the measures taken by Parties for the
implementation of the Convention,

* On behalf of the States Members of the Intergovernmental Negotiating
Committee that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Having considered the report and recommendation submitted by the INCD:

1. Decides to establish a Committee on the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) to assist the Conference of the Parties (COP) on the assessment and review of the effective implementation of the Convention;

2. Decides also that the CRIC shall be open to participation by all Parties and comprise of Government representatives who are experts on issues related to desertification and droughts;

3. Decides further that the CRIC shall report to the COP on all aspects of its work and under its guidance shall, inter alia, operate as follows:

(a) consider the information communicated, pursuant to article 26 of the CCD in order to assist the COP in carrying out the assessments and review of the effective implementation of the Convention;

(b) assist the COP, as appropriate, in the preparation and implementation of its decisions and recommendations;

(c) consider reports submitted by the global mechanism to the COP on its activities, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 5 (d);

(d) consider reports submitted by the Permanent Secretariat of the Convention to the COP on the executive of its functions, in accordance with article 23, paragraph 2 (f);

(e) perform such other activities as may be determined by the COP;

4. Stresses that the CRIC shall begin its work at the second ordinary session of the CCD in 1998;

5. Stresses also that the composition of the Bureau of the CRIC shall be done in accordance with the provisions of article 31 of the Rules of Procedure of the COP;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention to make all necessary arrangements for the CRIC to fulfil its terms of reference and to meet in parallel, with the COP and as appropriate before or after the sessions.





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PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

United Republic of Tanzania*: draft decision

Designation of a permanent secretariat and arrangements for
its functioning: collaboration with other Conventions

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the "Programme for the further implementation of Agenda 21"
adopted by the Nineteenth Special Session of the United Nations
General Assembly, which, inter alia, recommends that the conference of the
parties to conventions signed at the Rio Conference or as a result of it, as
well as other conventions related to sustainable development, cooperate in
exploring ways and means of collaborating in their work to advance the
effective implementation of the conventions,

Recalling also that it welcomes and fully supports efforts of convention
secretariats, in response to requests from the respective conference of the
parties, to explore, where appropriate, modalities for suitable liaison
arrangements in Geneva and/or New York for the purpose of enhancing linkages
with delegations and organizations at those United Nations centres,

* On behalf of the States Members of the Intergovernmental Negotiating
Committee that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

1. Takes note of the above-mentioned nineteenth recommendations of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly;

2. Requests the head of the interim secretariat to make all efforts to strengthen further the collaboration with other relevant conventions and, in particular, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands as well as other conventions related to sustainable development;

3. Requests also the head of the interim secretariat to report to its next session on the implementation of this decision.
